

OTS: 60-11,519

JPRS: 2532

15 April 1960

CONFERENCE ON THE NATURAL FOCI OF DISEASES
AND PROBLEMS OF PARASITOLOGY

- USSR -

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WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Price: \$0.50

19981208 070

U. S. JOINT PUBLICATIONS RESEARCH SERVICE
205 EAST 42nd STREET, SUITE 300
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

JPRS: 2532

CSO : 3625-N

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[This is a translation of an article written by R. Ya. Panin in Vestnik Akademii Nauk Kazakhskoy SSR (Herald of the Academy of Sciences KaSSR), No 11, Alma Ata, 1959, pages 90-91.]

In September 1959, in Alma-Ata, the 4th conference on natural foci of diseases and problems of parasitology in Kazakhstan and the republics of Central Asia was held. The conference was organized by the Zoological Institute of the AS KaSSR according to the resolution of the council on the Coordination of Scientific Research under the AS USSR.

The object of the conference was to supply results of parasitological investigations in Kazakhstan and the republics of Central Asia and to seek methods for further investigations in the field of medical and veterinary parasitology, which would answer the problems put before scientists and parasitology specialists by the 21st convention of the CPSU.

Taking part in the conference were biological scientists, medical and veterinary doctors, higher educational institution workers of the republics of Central Asia, Kazakhstan, Siberia, as well as scientists from Moscow, Leningrad, Tbilisi, Yerevan and other cities in the country. Among the participants in the conference were the following well-known parasitology scientists: academician Ye. N. Pavlovskiy, corresponding member AMS USSR P.A. Petrishcheva, Prof. A.V. Gutsevich (military-Medical Academy S.M. Kirov) Prof. V. Ya. Podolyan (Institute of sanitation of the Ministry of Defense USSR), Prof. Ye. M. Kheysin (Institute of Cytology AS USSR), corresponding member of the Slovakian Academy of Sciences Prof. Yan Gorovka.

At the conference were represented about 40 scientific-practical, and educational institutions of the country.

The conference was opened by the founder of the science of natural foci of diseases, academician Ye. N. Pavlovskiy, who clarified various new aspects of the science of natural foci, attracted the attention of the participants of the conference to problems awaiting Soviet scientists in the area of further developments of theoretical principles of the science of natural foci, as well as in the area of prevention of natural-foci and parasitic diseases of man and animals.

At four sections of the conference 153 papers were read, 100 of which were presented by scientists and practical workers of the veterinary and medical network of Kazakhstan, including 35 papers from the Institute of Zoology AS KaSSR and 10 papers from the Institute of Regional Pathology.

The plenary sessions heard the reports of academicians of the AS KaSSR I.G. Galuzo ("20 Years of Study of Natural Foci of Diseases and Problems of Further Investigations in Kazakhstan and Central Asia"), V.S. Petrov ("Types of Natural Foci of Eurasian Plague"), and academicians of the AS KaSSR S.N. Boyev ("Parasitology Problems at the 16th International Veterinary Congress in Madrid").

At the sections on natural foci, 39 lectures were given, in which were clarified problems on natural foci, epizootiology, and pathogenesis of plague. Six of the papers were devoted to brucellosis, among which the greatest interest was aroused by the presentations of academicians of the AS KirgizSSR A.A. Volkova and co-authors ("Comparative Data on the Infectiousness of Mites of the Genus *Dermacentor* *Brucella* *bovis* and *Br. melitensis*"), M.M. Rememtsova ("Complementary Sources of Brucellosis Infection"), and G.A. Kolomakina ("Dogs - a Channel for the Infiltration of Brucellosis from Rabbits to Farm Animals").

The report of academicians of the AS KaSSR I.G. Galuzo and M.P. Yakunin ("Natural Foci of Spirochetosis in Birds") enjoyed high esteem. The remaining speeches dealt with natural foci and epizootiology of tularemia, leptospirosis, and also with methods of combating rodents.

At the section on protozoology 26 papers were heard; nine of them were devoted to hemosporidiosis, in which were reflected problems on therapy and prophylaxis of the illness, as well as the biology of pyroplasma; four, to coccidiosis, in which were clarified the composition of the species and specificity of coccidia and problems of chemotherapy in coccidiosis; four, to the propagation, pathogenesis, and cultivation of trypanosomes. Great interest was aroused by the papers on the influence of factors of outside environment on the course of protozoic diseases (N.P. Orlov), on the trichomonas of cattle (S.M. Pak) and toxoplasmosis of man and animals (M.S. Sofuyev, A.V. Levut).

At the arachno-entomology section 43 papers were read, a significant part of which (11) was devoted to regional ecologofaunistic surveys of ixodic, red-bodied, and gamasoid mites and their roles in transferring the causes of transmissible diseases. In the papers of V.N. Kusov (Alma-Ata), R.V. Grebenyuk (Frunze), and N.I. Igolkin (Tomsk) the role of certain species of ixodic mites was shown in the transmission and preservation of causes of tularemia, leptospirosis of thick encephalitis, brucellosis, and hemosporidiosis. In the reports of Prof. A.V. Gutsevich (Leningrad), V.V. Shevchenko, M.S. Shakireyanova (Institute of Zoology AS KaSSR) the composition of the species, the propagation and harmful role of mites, mosquitoes, and horse flies

are examined. The paper of D.K. Polyakov (Moscow) was devoted to demodicidosis and hypodermatosis of large cattle; in it are cited data on the commercial loss caused the national economy by these diseases. V. Ya. Podolyan (Moscow) and P.G. Kalmykov (Leningrad) shared the results of their work on the use of ionizing radiations in the control of carriers of natural foci diseases. These papers aroused great interest among the participants of the conference.

At the helminthology section 42 reports were made, 15 of which were devoted to helminthofauna of domestic and wild animals; four, to opisthorchosis; four, to echinococcosis; four, to coenurosis; eight, to the epizootiology of helminthiases; three, to the biology of helminthes; and one paper each to trichinosis, bunostomosis, and dioctophymosis. Two papers dealt with problems of immunity and therapy in helminthiosis. Lively discussions developed after the addresses of Prof. R.S. Shul'ts ("Echinococcosis as a Medical and National Economy Problem"), V.R. Yelantseva and M. Dzhumagaliyeva ("On the Effect of an UHF Field on the Larval Stage of the Echinococcus"), Ye. G. Sidorov ("The Role of Irtysh River Fish in the Epidemiology of Opisthorchosis"), N.A. Khokhol'kova ("The Spread of Opisthorchosis among the Population of the Irtysh River Basin"), and Prof. Ya. P. Goyork ("New Data on the Biology of *Fasciola hepatica* Under Natural Conditions in Czechoslovakia").

The conference adopted concrete resolutions on all the problems under discussion and indicated the necessity for further development of scientific research on natural foci and parasitic diseases of man and animals in Kazakhstan and the republics of Central Asia, appealed to the participants to widely popularize parasitological science, by enlisting in it contributors of scientific research institutes and wide circles of practical medico-veterinary workers.

The conference also adopted a resolution to convene the next, fifth, conference in the city of Frunze (Kirgiz SSR) in 1962.

The participants of the conference approved the resolution to organize a Kazakh society of parasitologists and elected an established council composed of representatives of scientific research institutes, higher educational institutions, and practical workers of the medico-veterinary network of Kazakhstan.

At the closing session corresponding member of the AMS USSR, P.A. Petrishcheva gave the results of the work of the conference and wished the participants success in their further scientific and practical activity.

END